THE

Theatrical Observer.

" Nothing extenuate nor set down aught in malice."

No. 27. WEDNESDAY, Oct. 24, 1821. *Price 1d.*

DRURY LANE.

WHEN we inform our readers that the performances at this House, last night, were *Geraldi Duval*, *The Coronation*, and *Monsieur Tonson*, they will not be surprised at our declaring the utter inability we labour under of making a single *new* remark upon the edifying exhibitions of the evening.

We are, at this moment, circumstanced pretty nearly the same as a musical pupil who is set down to practice for hours together, *The Dead March in Saul*, or *God Save the King*, or *The Minuet de la Cour ;* and who, when at length the dull repetition is over, joyously dashes away at a *voluntary* or a merry jig. So we, who have undergone night after night the penance of boring over the hacknied *horrors*, *regalities*, and *mouvements*, contained in the above-mentioned Melodrame, Spectacle, and Farce, glady fly to any *whim* that can drive them out of our memory.—Well—what shall we say? What shall we do to fill the little *blank* space before us? Shall we take a *refreshing* walk in Bridges-street, or as a foreign friend of ours calls it—*Breeches*-street? which name, by the bye, Mr. PARR, of the corner *cloathes-shop*, would, we think, have no objection to.—Well, here, at this very shop let us breathe awhile—and gazing on the towering fane across the way, let us for a moment indulge imagination.

We think we see before us the *future* favored haunt of genius—yes—it is *that* over which presides a man of *taste*, *judgment*, and *liberality*. As we gaze, we call up to memory the history of past-times, when the COMIC MUSE was loosened from the trammels of *decency ;* when she rather sought to dazzle and allure than teach the heart its proper feelings, and the understanding it just limits.

We proceed in fancy through intervals of vigour and propriety to the revolutionary period, when *morality* attempted the merry Muse's life, and left her lingering to these days in the hands of wretched quacks. But, surely, within yonder *Temple* we may not ineffectually put up our prayers for her preservation—for there is a High Priest who well knows the most grateful *sacrifice*—Yes, revered Sage, lay bare on your *smoking* Altars the *bandits*—the screaming *virgins*, and scolding *house-keepers* of rock-lodged thieves—stretch the glittering *coats of mail*—the flaunting *flags*—consume them *all*, and with them the brainless skulls of *Spectacle Projectors*, and *Bombast Manufacturers*.

We do not think it fair in Mrs. Fawcett to arrogate to herself the applause bestowed *equally* upon *herself*, her *car*, and *horses*.

Miss Beaumont performed the character of Patrick in the Farce of *The Poor Soldier*, in a very pretty and *interesting* manner. The song of " *My Friend and Pitcher*" in which she was encored, was sang with much good taste.

Mr. Liston's Darby was irresistably comic.

The House was crowded to excess, and the piece announced for repetition amidst great applause.

HAY-MARKET.

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THE *Beggars' Opera* was last night performed, and introduced to this stage a young lady, as *Captain Macheath.*

We will not, on the *first* appearance of the fair *debutante*, enter on minute criticism; but as she performs again the same part this evening, we shall await her less embarrassed efforts to enable us to give a decided opinion on her merits, which are evidently considerable. She was much applauded and was encored in "*When first at her looking-glass,*" and in "*How happy could I be with either.*"

In the meantime it may not prove uninteresting to our readers to insert a critique upon the Opera itself, from the works of a celebrated modern author. He says, "the merits of *The Beggars' Opera* are particularly its own. It not only delights but instructs us, without our knowing how, though it is at first view equally offensive to good taste and common decency. The materials, indeed, of which it is composed, the scenes, characters, and incidents, are in general of the lowest and most disgusting kind; but the Author, by the sentiments and reflections which he has put into the mouths of highwaymen, turnkeys, their wives and daughters, has converted the motley group into a set of fine Gentlemen and Ladies, satirists, and philosophers. What is still more extraordinary, he has effected this transformation without once violating probability, or "overstepping the modesty of nature." In fact *Gay* has, in this instance, turned the tables on the critics, and by the assumed license of the mock heroic, still has enabled himself to do justice to nature, that is, to give all the force, birth, and locality of real feeling to the thoughts and expressions, without being called to the bar of false taste and affected delicacy. We might particularly refer to *Polly*'s description of the death of her lover, and to the song, "*Woman is like the fair flower in its lustre,*' the extreme beauty and feeling of which are only equalled by their characteristic propriety and *naivete*. Every line of this sterling Comedy sparkles with wit, and is fraught with the keenest and bitterest invectives. It has been said by a great moralist, 'there is some soul of goodness in things evil,' and *The Beggars' Opera* is a good natured but severe comment on this text. The Poet has thrown all the gaiety and sunshine of the imagination, the intoxication of pleasure, and the vanity of despair round the short lived existence of his heroes, while *Peachum* and *Lockit* are seen in the back ground parcelling out their months and their weeks between them, The general view of human life is one of the most refined and abstracted kind."

Mr. C. JONES, and [illegible]

Mrs. CHATTERLEY.

Mrs. PEARCE, and Miss R. CORRI.

Doors open at 6 o'Clock, and the Performance to begin at 7.

Printed by E. THOMAS, Denmark-Court, Exeter-'Change,
Published by C. HARRIS, 25, Bow Street,
Who has it served, at *an early hour, each morning*, at the houses of those who favor him with their orders.

Theatre Royal,

Covent Garden.

This Evening will be performed the Opera of

THE EXILE.

Count Ulricke the Exile) Mr EGERTON.
Governor of Seberia, Mr. W. FARREN.
Baron Altradoff, Mr. LISTON. Count Calmar, Mr. DURUSET
The Patriarch, Mr. HUNT.
The Czarowitz, Master BODEN.
Daran, Mr. YOUNG.
Welzien, Mr. CONNER. Rimski, Mr. COMER.
Yermach, Mr. CHAPMAN. Servitz, Mr. FAWCETT.
Officer, Mr. Mears. Citizen, Mr. Atkins.
Mariner, Mr. George. Servant, Mr. King. Guard, Mr. Louis
Villagers, Messrs. Taylor, Pyne, &c.

The Empress Elizabeth, Mrs. FAUCIT.
Katharine, Mrs. TENNANT.
Sedona, Mrs. VINING. Alexina, Miss FOOTE.
Villagers, Mesdms. Beaumont, Love, &c.

The following is part of the Scenery.
Mountains of Snow—Cottage of Count Ulrick.
Rocky Pass among the Mountains.—Hall in the Governor's House at Tobolski.—The River Wolga by Moonlight.
General View of Moscow.—The Square of Moscow, in which takes place the
GRAND PUBLIC ENTRY OF EMPRESS ELIZABETH
The Outside of the Greek Church—The Interior of the Cathedral of Moscow in which the
CORONATION OF ELIZABETH
Is Performed by the Graud Patriarch and his Dignitaries.

To which will be added the musical Farce of

THE POOR SOLDIER.

Patrick, Miss BEAUMONT.
Father Luke, Mr. CONNOR. Dermot, Mr. PYNE.
Capt. Fitzroy, Mr. COMER.
Darby Mr. LISTON. Bagatelle, Mr. FARLEY.
Nora, Miss LOVE, Kathlane, Mrs. LISTON.

Doors open at Half past Six, and the Play to begin at 7.

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Theatre Royal, Hay Market.

This Evening will be Performed

THE BEGGAR's OPERA.

Peachum, Mr. TERRY. Lockit, Mr. WILLIAMS.
Captain Macheath, By A YOUNG LADY,
(her 2nd. appearance on this Stage, and in that Character.)
Filch, Mr. J. RUSSELL.
Ben Budge, Mr. EBSWORTH Mat o'the Mint, Mr. BROUGH
Jemmy Twitcher, Mr. COATES.
Crook-finger'd Jack, Mr. HAMMOND.
Wat Dreary, Mr. YOUNG. Nimming Ned, Mr. SAUNDERS
Harry Paddington, Mr. DIETHER. Drawer, Mr. JONES

Mrs. Peachum, Mrs. PEARCE.
Polly, Miss R. CORRI. Lucy, Mrs. JONES.
Jenny Diver Mrs. COVENEY Suk, Tawdry Mrs. KENDALL
In Act 3. A Hornpipe in Fetters.

Previous to which,

THE SPOIL'D CHILD.

Old Pickle, Mr. WILLIAMS.
Little Pickle, Mrs. BAKER.
Tag, Mr. TAYLEURE. John, Mr. HAMMOND.
Miss Pickle, Mrs. PEARCE. Maria, Mrs. YOUNG.
Margery, Mrs. KENDALL. Susan Mrs. JONES.

The whole to conclude with the Burlesque Entertainment of

BOMBASTES FURIOSO.

Artaxomines, Mr. J. RUSSELL. Fusbos, Mr. HAMMOND
General Bombastes, Mr. TAYLEURE.
Courtiers, Messrs. Ebsworth and Henry.
Distaffina, Mrs. JONES.

Doors open at 6 o'Clock, and the Performance to begin at 7.

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